

**CLAIMS:**

1. A slider for a slide fastener, the slider having a member for latching the slider to a co-operating slider, wherein the slider has a slider body portion which is slidable over elements of a slide fastener to engage and disengage the elements, and a latch body portion incorporating the latching member, the latch body being mounted on the slider body portion.
2. A slider as claimed in claim 1, wherein the latch body portion includes a resilient latching member which is resiliently deformed on engagement and disengagement with the co-operating slider.
3. A slider as claimed in claim 1, wherein the latch body portion is integrally formed.
4. A slider as claimed in claim 3, wherein the latch body is connected to the slider body portion by a form locking connection.
5. A slider as claimed in claim 1, wherein the slider body portion has a crown for receiving a puller, the crown being mounted at one end on a surface of the slider body portion, and the latch body co-operating with the crown to hold the latch body on the slider body portion.
6. A slider as claimed in claim 5, wherein the latch body engages with the crown at the said one end.
7. A slider as claimed in claim 6, wherein the other end of the crown is spaced from the surface of the slider body portion, and the latch body is sandwiched between the other end of the crown and the surface of the latch body portion.
8. A slider as claimed in claim 7, wherein the other end of the crown engages in a recess in the latch body.

9. A slider as claimed in claim 1, wherein the slider body portion is integrally formed.
10. A slider as claimed in claim 1, wherein the slider body portion and the latch body portion are formed of different materials.
11. In combination, a slider as claimed in claim 1, and a co-operating slider, the co-operating slider having a slide body portion and a separately formed latch body portion for co-operating with the other latch body portion.
12. A slide fastener comprising:
  - a first slider and a second slider arranged to be slidable on a pair of interlocking stringers so as to open the fastener when separated and close the fastener when brought together;
  - a first receiving portion disposed on the first slider;
  - a first resilient latching member disposed on the second slider and engageable with the first receiving portion;
  - a second receiving portion disposed on one of the sliders; and
  - a second resilient latching member disposed on the other of the sliders and engageable with the second receiving portion;
  - wherein the first and second receiving portions are arranged to engage with the first and second latching members respectively, to releasably latch the first and second sliders together, and the latching members and receiving portions are arranged to be disengaged by lateral movement of the latching members, so unlatching the sliders.
13. A slide fastener according to claim 12, further comprising:
  - a lead member on one of the sliders;
  - a guide portion on the other slider, the guide portion arranged to guide the lead member when the first and second sliders are brought together, wherein the lead member and guide portion align the first and second sliders and inhibit lateral movement therebetween.

14. A slide fastener comprising:

a first slider and a second slider arranged to be slidable on a pair of interlocking stringers so as to open the fastener when separated and close the fastener when brought together;

a resilient latching member disposed on the first slider;

a receiving portion disposed on the second slider and arranged to engage the latching member such that when engaged, the latching member and receiving portion inhibit separation of the first and second sliders;

a lead member on one of the first and second sliders;

a guide portion on the other slider, arranged to guide the lead member when the first and second sliders are brought together, wherein:

the lead member and guide portion align the first and second sliders and inhibit lateral movement therebetween.

15. A slide fastener according to claim 12, wherein at least one of the sliders is formed as an integral single piece.

16. A slide fastener according to claim 12, wherein a slider comprises a slider body portion slidable on the stringers and a latch body portion including a said latching member, the latch body portion being formed separately from and attached to the slider body portion.

17. A slider for a slide fastener, the slider having a slider body portion which is slidable over elements of a slide fastener to engage and disengage the elements, and a surface body portion mounted on an upper surface of the slider body portion.

18. A slider as claimed in claim 17, wherein the surface body portion is decorative.

19. A slider as claimed in claim 17, wherein the slider body portion has a crown for receiving a puller, the crown being mounted at one end on a surface of the slider body portion, and the latch body co-operates with the crown to hold the latch body on the slider body portion.

20. A slider as claimed in claim 19, wherein the surface body portion grips the crown at the said one end.
21. A slider as claimed in claim 20, wherein the other end of the crown is spaced from the surface of the slider body portion, and the surface body portion is sandwiched between the other end of the crown and the surface of the surface body portion.
22. A slider as claimed in claim 21, wherein the other end of the crown engages in a recess in the surface body portion.
23. A slider as claimed in claim 17, wherein the slider body portion is integrally formed.
24. A slider as claimed in claim 17, wherein the surface body portion is integrally formed.
25. A slider as claimed in claim 17, wherein the slider body portion and the surface body portion are formed of different materials.